Alameda County Awarded $72M to Support Housing and Treatment for People with Significant Behavioral Health Needs

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA – The Alameda County Health Care Service Agency’s Behavioral Health Care Services department (ACBH) was awarded $72 million from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) enabling it to increase interim housing and expand mental health and substance treatment infrastructure across the county. This funding will support increased bed capacity, expand on-demand services, and enhance the continuum of services for community members in need of substance use disorder, mental illness, and housing supports.

“Alameda County is honored to receive these significant grant awards that will support capital investments for providers and expand fundamental services and resources to address the behavioral health and housing needs of our community members,” said Dr. Karyn L. Tribble, Director of Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services.

Over $26 million was funded through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum grants. BHCIP projects are intended to increase resources for mental health and substance use disorder treatment. The state will allocate funds directly to Alameda County partners and community-based providers Bay Area Community Services (BACS) and La Familia (dba Alliance for Community Wellness).

BACS was awarded $18.65 million that will be used for a new behavioral health and housing program at the St. Regis campus in Hayward. This funding will support the renovation of three existing buildings at St. Regis to launch:

- a behavioral health urgent care center where community members can receive care on demand,
- a Mental Health Rehabilitation Center for community members with significant mental health issues that require around-the-clock care, and
- a substance use disorder withdrawal management and residential treatment and community wellness center.

The BACS St. Regis project was also previously awarded Community Care Expansion funds that will create **housing for people with disabilities and older adults**.

La Familia received $7.6 million to purchase and renovate existing structures to become a **multi-level substance use disorder services program in Livermore, which will include a sobering center and withdrawal management program**. These programs will expand services in East County and provide an alternative to jail or the Emergency Department for community members who require a safe location for detoxification and substance use treatment.

Alameda County also received **$46 million** from the state’s Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program. The BHBH program aims to increase access to housing for people with serious behavioral health conditions. ACBH will be partnering with the Health Care Services Agency’s Office of Homeless Care and Coordination (OHCC) to expand the range of emergency, short-term and longer-term housing services that will:

- serve an estimated 1,500+ community members,
- provide 55 rental subsidies at market rate,
- provide 252 additional beds,
- support the local implementation of CARE Courts,
- and support continued implementation of the County’s Home Together Plan.

“It has been important for us to have this ongoing partnership with Behavioral Health. Working together we are able to support the most vulnerable community members, their families, and service providers in meeting the most significant treatment needs, especially for people who are unhoused. This funding allows us to expand care with a place to stay connected, and to come closer to meeting the high demand here in Alameda County, “said Kerry Abbott, Director of the Office of Homeless Care and Coordination.

ACBH will also continue to work with existing partners and providers to leverage resources and initiatives to increase needed local capacity.

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